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Message Text

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40
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SCI-06 AEC-11 DRC-01 /133 W
---------- 120780
R 111011Z MAY 74
FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4742
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, CT
SUBJECT: BOKASSA'S REACTION TO UNFAVORABLE FRENCH PRESS

IN NATIONWIDE RADIO-TV SPEECH EVENING MAY 10, PRESIDENT BOKASSA DENOUNCED THE UNFAVORABLE ARTICLES RECENTLY PUBLISHED ABOUT HIM AND OTHER AFRICAN CHIEFS OF STATE IN THE FRENCH PRESS. HE ATTRIBUTES THE SOURCE OF THE ARTICLES ABOUT HIM TO THE LOCAL AFP, FRENCH CONSULATE GENERAL AND FRENCH EMBASSY IN BANGUI. HE WENT ON TO ACCUSE THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT OF ORGANIZING COUPS D'ETAT AGAINST HIM AND ACCUSED THEM OF ATTEMPTING TO UNDERMINE THE MORALE OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC. PRESIDENT BOKASSA ALSO ATTEMPTED TO JUSTIFY HIS GRANTING OF A URANIUM CONCESSION TO THE SWISS BY STATING THAT THE FRENCH TRIED TO BLACKMAIL HIM.

2. THE SPEECH WAS FOLLOWED BY A SERIES OF DECREES. THE FIRST ONE NATIONALZED AFP OFFICE, THE SECOND ESTABLISHED L'AGENCE CENTRAFRICAIN DE PRESSE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION. THE THIRD ABOLISHED THE FRENCH CONSULATE GENERAL IN THE CAR AND A FOURTH DECREE REVOKED THE DECREE APPOINTING HENRI KOBA AS DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION.

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3. COMMENTS: THIS ACTION FOLLOWS THE PUBLICATION OF SEVERAL

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UNFAVORABLE ARTICLES ABOUT BOKASSA IN THE WESTERN PRESS BEGINNING WITH "TIME" MAGAZINE IN MARCH. THE APRIL ARTICLE IN "LE CRAPOUILLOT" IS APPARENTLY THE ONE THAT BROKE THE CAMEL'S BACK. KOBA TOLD ME ON MAY 1 THAT BOKASSA BLAMED HIM FOR THE TIME MAGAZINE ARTICLE AND THAT HE WAS IN HOT WATER THEN.
DALE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, INTERVENTION, FOREIGN RELATIONS, PRESS COMMENTS, NATIONALIZATION, SPEECHES, NEWSPAPERS, GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES, PERSONNEL APPO INTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BANGUI00456
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740116-0264
From: BANGUI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740555/aaaabwwx.tel
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Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
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Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <13 FEB 2003 by GarlanWA>
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BOKASSA'S REACTION TO UNFAVORABLE FRENCH PRESS IN NATIONWIDE RADIO-TV SPEECH EVENING MAY 10, PRESIDENT
TAGS: PFOR, EIND, PGOV, CT, FR, AFP, (BOKASSA, JEAN BEDEL), (KOBA, HENRI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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